

DCCEL Licensing Project
Proposed Research Topics
Exhibit 1

- A. How does Washington State compare to other states in protecting children in licensed child care from harm (death, child abuse, serious injuries)?
- B. Are there specific licensing rules that Washington State should focus on that would reduce the possibility that children in licensed care will be harmed?
- C. How do states most effectively pursue legal proceedings against providers that are not in compliance with licensing regulations?
- D. What states have licensing systems and rules that are regarded as exemplary in terms of minimizing the likelihood of risk to children? What aspects of their systems and rules are regarded as most critical?
- E. How do states with tort systems similar to Washington's manage the legal risks associated with regulating child care?
- F. Are there effective techniques used by other states to screen for high risk providers?
- G. Are the risk factors for center providers different from those for family home providers?
- H. What states are most similar to Washington State in terms of their licensing systems (licensing ratios and staffing, processes for handling complaints, ways of identifying and processing adverse licensing legal actions, etc)?
- I. How do rates of child death, abuse and neglect, or serious injury in licensed care compare to rates in unlicensed or parental care? (This can be specific to Washington State or more general.)
- J. Are there center characteristics associated with higher risk (e.g., type of center, size of the facility, characteristics of the physical facility, ages of children in care, qualifications of providers)?
- K. Are there family home characteristics associated with higher risk (e.g. numbers of children cared for, use of assistants, use of relatives or provider's own children to provide care, ages of children, etc)?
- L. What are the most important measures of licensor activities to track and report?

Topics not on the list will be given full consideration.